

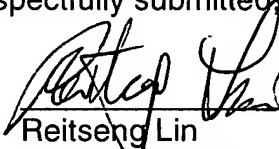
REMARKS:

Claims 1-20 are pending, claims 1-5 are rejected, and claims 6-20 are indicated allowable. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 6-20.

Dependent claims 21-25 are added, where claims 21 and 22 depend from claim 14, and claims 23-25 depend from claim 6. Support for the added claims can be found, for example, on page 8, lines 11-15, and page 14, line 23-page 14, line 6. Since claims 6 and 14 are allowable, claims 21-25 are also allowable.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-5 without prejudice and disclaimer. As such, this application stands in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, applicant requests that he contact their undersigned attorney in order to resolve any outstanding issues without the necessity of issuing another Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,


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March 1, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to [Mail Stop AF], Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on:

3-1-04
Date

Karen Schlauch
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